

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA**

BRIAN K. BRANCH,)
)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
)
v.) **Case No. CIV-16-1108-CG**
)
)
NANCY A. BERRYHILL, Acting)
Commissioner of Social Security,)
)
Defendant.)
)

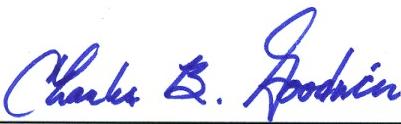
ORDER

On March 28, 2018, the Court entered an Opinion and Order and a Judgment reversing the decision of the Acting Commissioner and remanding this case for further proceedings. *See* Doc. Nos. 23, 24. Plaintiff Brian K. Branch now requests an award of attorney's fees pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act ("EAJA"), 28 U.S.C. § 2412. *See* Pl.'s Mot. Att'y Fees (Doc. No. 25). Defendant has filed no objection to Plaintiff's request within the time allowed. *See* LCvR 54.2.

Having considered Plaintiff's unopposed request and the relevant record, the Court finds that: Plaintiff "is a 'prevailing party'; (2) the position of the United States was not 'substantially justified'; and (3) there are no special circumstances that make an award of fees unjust" in this case. *Hackett v. Barnhart*, 475 F.3d 1166, 1172 (10th Cir. 2007) (quoting 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d)(1)(A)). The Court therefore GRANTS Plaintiff's request (Doc. No. 25) and awards fees in the amount of \$6347.90, with said amount to be paid directly to Plaintiff and sent in care of Casey L. Saunders, P.O. Box 2318, Ada, Oklahoma, 74821. If attorney's fees are also awarded under 42 U.S.C. § 406(b), Plaintiff's counsel

shall refund the smaller award to Plaintiff pursuant to *Weakley v. Bowen*, 803 F.2d 575, 580 (10th Cir. 1986).

IT IS SO ORDERED this 7th day of August, 2018.



CHARLES B. GOODWIN
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE